

CUP.21 9.29/4

Lynn, Norfolk, June 2, 1791.

P R O P O S A L S,
For PRINTING by SUBSCRIPTION,
From an Original Manuscript;
AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE
Great Level of the Fens, call'd
BEDFORD LEVEL;

With References to LELAND'S *Itinerary*, DUGDALE'S *History of Imbanking and Draining*, and others of the most approved Authority :

In which will be described the ancient natural state of the said Great Level, and the rivers passing through it; the changes and alterations they have undergone, the great and expensive works which have been erected for the improvement of it, with the success and miscarriages attending them; affording useful and instructive examples in future undertakings of the like nature.

IT is hardly necessary to add any thing respecting the utility of the above publication; especially at a time, when the first nobility of this kingdom and a numerous body of gentlemen, possessed of considerable property in the Level, are engaged in a scheme for draining it more effectually, and improving the navigation, by applying to parliament for an act enabling them to make a new cut. That the outfall of the river Ouse has been gradually choaking up, and that the waters, which should be conveyed of the Level by that outlet, have inundated great part of the fens to a ruinous degree, has been matter of complaint for several years. Whatever therefore has a tendency to throw any light upon this subject, important in itself, as extending to a territory of 300,000 acres; or which may point out, either what has, or should have been done for the more permanent security and drainage of the Level, it is hoped, cannot be unacceptable to the public, especially if the observations are sanctioned by a long course of professional experience. The judgment and abilities of the author are well known in this part of the country, and the works he executed will remain a lasting testimony of his skill and capacity. The treatise, now offered to the public, contains various remarks collected during many years in his professional engagements. Its authority is not supported by flimsy arguments of vague, theoretic conjecture, but built upon the solid basis of experimental operation, and immediately applicable to the state of the Great Level of the Fens, which he had minutely examined, and in the improvement of which he was frequently employed.

By WILLIAM ELSTOBB, late *Land-Surveyor and Engineer*.

C O N D I T I O N S.

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| I. That this work will be neatly printed in one volume octavo, with a good type and fine paper. | copies will be printed on a large paper, price 12s. to be paid on delivery of the book in boards. |
| II. The price to subscribers, 7s. 6d. a few | III. Map of <i>Marshland</i> . &c. neatly engraved, will be given with this work. |

** Such gentlemen as please to encourage this work, are desired to send their names to Mr. WHITTINGHAM, Bookseller and Printer, *Lynn*; Mr. R. BALDWIN, *Pater-noster-Row, London*; Mr. RUFFHEAD, *Bedford*; Mr. PRESTON or Mrs. WORLEY, *Boston*; Mr. JACOB, *Peterborough*; Mr. ALBIN, *Spalding*; Mr. CROFT, *St. Ives*; Mr. JENKINSON, *Huntingdon*; Mr. ALLEN, *Grantham*; Mr. SHARP, *St. Neots*; the Booksellers of *Cambridge* and *Norwich*, or any other Bookseller, as soon as possible, the work being in the press.